been found possible to provide the Force due to commitments elsewhere. However, the Bihar Government have been advised to optimise their own resources and manpower to deal with the problem.

New Agriculture Policy

1548. SHRI RAMCHANDRA VEERAPPA :
DR. ASIM BALA :
SHRI K.H. MUNIYAPPA :
DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI :
SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have finalised the Draft Resolution of the New Agriculture Policy;

(b) if so, the salient features of the Draft Resolution of the new Agriculture Policy; and

(c) the date by which the new Agriculture Policy is likely to be announced ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (EXCLUDING THE DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING) (SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA) : (a) to (c) A Draft Agriculture Policy Resolution prepared by the Government was recently discussed in a meeting of State Agriculture Ministers held at New Delhi on 19 Feb., 1997. The major thrust of the draft Resolution is on :

(i) removal of regional and crop imbalances,

(ii) increase in investment in the agriculture sector,

(iii) grant of facilities to agriculture as are available for industry without the regulatory and tax collection mechanism of the industrial sector,

(iv) making available inputs at reasonable rates to the farmers in the proximity of their fields,

(v) easy availability of credit at reasonable rates of interest to the farmers,

(vi) human resource development,

(vii) focus on agricultural research, and

(viii) relaxation of controls in agriculture sector.

The draft Resolution is under finalisation keeping in view the suggestions made in the Conference.

Gas based Fertiliser Factproes

1549. SHRI ANNASAHIB M.K. PATIL : Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production of chemical fertilizers plants is linked to Hazira (Gujarat) gas pipe lines;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the details of losses caused as a result of shortage of gas to these plants; and

(d) the details of action taken or proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS (SHRI SIS RAM OLA) : (a) and (b) The following fertilizer plants are alimented from the land fall point at Hazira and by the HBJ pipeline:

(i) Hazira unit of Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited;

(ii) Vadodara unit of Gujarat State Fertilizer Company;

(iii) Vijaipur unit of National Fertilizers Limited;

(iv) Aonla unit of Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited;

(v) Jagdishpur unit of Indo-Gulf Fertilizers and Chemicals Corporation Limited;

(vi) Gadepan unit of Chambal Fertilizers and Chemicals Limited;

(vii) Babrala unit of Tata Chemicals Limited; and

(viii) Shahjahanpur unit of Oswal Chemicals & Fertilizers Limited.

(c) and (d) In January 1997, ONGC had undertaken a partial shutdown for 23 days, affecting the gas supply to the consumers mentioned above. The production shortfall on this account during January 1997 was 2.02 lakh tonnes. ONGC has completed the work of platform modification in the South Bassein field to increase the gas handling capacity of the platforms. With this, the receipt of gas at Hazira has increased. ONGC plans to drill additional wells in the Bassein field, which is expected to further increase the supplies ex-Hazira and along the HBJ pipeline.

[Translation]

Terrorist Incidents in Punjab

1550. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the number of incidents of terrorism occurred in Punjab during 1996;

(b) the number of civilians, terrorists, security force personnel killed/injured in these incidents;

(c) the steps taken by the Government to check the situation; and

(d) whether some persons have to leave their native places due to these incidents and took shelter somewhere else ?